

What is claimed is:

1. A method of forwarding calls for a subscriber having a primary communication device and a plurality of alternate communication devices in a multimedia telecommunication network, the method comprising:

storing a call forwarding profile for the subscriber's primary communication device at a network server, the call forwarding profile specifying at least one of the alternate communication devices to which specific types of calls, based on the incoming media, are to be forwarded;

receiving a call for the subscriber's primary communication device from a caller;

determining the type of the call that has been received;
matching the type of call received to the call forwarding profile; and
routing the call to the proper alternate user device according to the call forwarding profile.

2. The method defined in claim 1, wherein the call comprises an instant message, a short message service, a multimedia message service, a voice call, or a data call.

3. The method defined in claim 1, wherein the multimedia telecommunication network includes an IP multimedia subsystem.

4. The method defined in claim 3, wherein the network server comprises a home subscriber server in the IP multimedia subsystem.

5. The method defined in claim 3, wherein the network server comprises an application server in the IP multimedia subsystem.

6. The method defined in claim 1, wherein the primary communication device comprises a mobile phone, a personal digital assistant, a notebook computer, or a desktop computer with multimedia communication capabilities.

7. The method defined in claim 1, wherein the call forwarding profile is programmed by the subscriber via an automated service, by entering a feature activation code, through the Internet (World Wide Web), or by calling a call center.

8. A system for forwarding calls for a subscriber having a primary communication device and a plurality of alternate communication devices in a multimedia telecommunication network, the system comprising:

means for storing a call forwarding profile for the subscriber's primary communication device at a network server, the call forwarding profile specifying at least one of the alternate communication devices to which specific types of calls are to be forwarded;

means for receiving a call for the subscriber's primary communication device from a caller;

means for determining the type of the call that has been received;

means for matching the type of call received to the call forwarding profile; and

means for routing the call to the proper alternate communication device according to the call forwarding profile.

9. The system defined in claim 8, wherein the call comprises an instant message, a short message service, a multimedia message service, a voice call, or a data call.

10. The system defined in claim 8, wherein the multimedia telecommunication network includes an IP multimedia subsystem.

11. The system defined in claim 10, wherein the network server comprises a home subscriber server in the IP multimedia subsystem.

12. The system defined in claim 10, wherein the network server comprises an application server in the IP multimedia subsystem.

13. The system defined in claim 8, wherein the primary communication device comprises a mobile phone, a personal digital assistant, a notebook computer, or a desktop computer with multimedia communication capabilities.

14. The system defined in claim 8, wherein the call forwarding profile is programmed by the subscriber via an automated service, by entering a feature activation code, or through the Internet.

15. In a multimedia telecommunication system, apparatus for forwarding calls for a subscriber having a primary communication device and a plurality of alternate communication devices, comprising:

a centralized database adapted to store a call forwarding profile for the subscriber's primary communication device, the call forwarding profile specifying at least one of the alternate communication devices to which specific types of calls are to be forwarded; and

a call session control function adapted to receive a call for the subscriber's primary communication device from a caller, determine the type of the call that has been received, and route the call to the proper alternate communication device according to the call forwarding profile.

16. The apparatus defined in claim 15, wherein the call comprises an instant message, a short message service, a multimedia message service, a voice call, or a data call.

17. The apparatus defined in claim 15, wherein the multimedia telecommunication system comprises an IP multimedia subsystem.

18. The apparatus defined in claim 17, wherein the centralized database comprises a home subscriber server.

19. The system defined in claim 17, wherein the network server comprises an application server in the IP multimedia subsystem.

20. The system defined in claim 15, wherein the primary communication device comprises a mobile phone, a personal digital assistant, a notebook computer, or a desktop computer with multimedia communication capabilities.